

ANNUAL
REPORT
2022-2023



The
Albert Coates
Memorial Trust

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The Albert Coates Memorial Trust

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STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Albert Coates Memorial Trust provides tertiary level scholarships for health professionals in regional Australia.

The Trust honours the life of Sir Albert Coates through publications, education programmes and associated educational awards.

Trust programmes are supported by donations, bequests and fund-raising activities.



The Albert Coates Memorial Trust is a volunteer-run, Ballarat-based organisation which, since 1998, has raised funds to present scholarships for medical purposes, with a strong emphasis on regional areas.

The scholarships are awarded in areas of interest and relevance to the life and achievements of Sir Albert Coates, the Ballarat-born surgeon of the Thai-Burma Railway.

During World War 1, Albert Coates served in Gallipoli, Egypt and Flanders as a medical orderly and with the Intelligence Corps. At 46 he volunteered for duty in World War II and went as Senior Surgeon with the 2/10th AGH of the 8th Division to Malaya. Captured by the Japanese in Sumatra, he was taken to Burma.

As a surgeon on the infamous Thai-Burma railway, he saved hundreds of lives and gave inspired leadership to those with whom he served.

TRUSTEES 2022/2023



Don Moss OAM
FRACS FACS
Hon Chair



Roger Trudgeon MA
Hon Secretary



Neill Shiells
Hon Treasurer



Shirley Mclver
Trustee



Gwenda McManus
Trustee

TRUSTEES, COMMITTEE AND AUDITOR

COMMITTEE MEMBERS



Robyn Coates



Arthur Coates



Desley Beechey JP



Dr Jeff Sargent



Dr Ross Phillips



Bill Bahr

HONORARY AUDITOR



Samuel Maskell CPA

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Trust

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REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

DON MOSS OAM FRACS FACS Honorary Chair

We were lucky to have Professor Peter Doherty AC FRS, Australian immunologist and Nobel Prize winner, to present the Coates Oration in November 2022. He was invited because of his prominent role as a public commentator on the recent Covid-19 pandemic. He reflected that Albert Coates had survived three major global crises, WW1, the 1918-19 influenza pandemic and WW2.

At the same age as Coates was when he died at 82, Doherty has now lived through WW2, the HIV/AIDS pandemic and COVID-19. He explained the background of development of COVID-19 vaccines and oral antiviral treatments. His oration is available via the Coates website www.albertcoates.com.au

In his recent book *"Empire War Tennis and Me"* (MUP) he enlarged on his own family members involvement in WW2.

While covering some of these experiences in the oration, they are expanded in his writing and provided a wise series of historical observations. His maternal uncles included Charles Byford and Jack Byford.

Charlie had enlisted in the AIF, serving initially in Malaya, prior to the withdrawal to Singapore. Following the fall of Singapore in February 1942, he became a POW, probably held in Changi. He later transferred with A-force to the Burma end of the Thai-Burma railway, and could well have met Coates at that time.

Following completion of the railway in October 1943, in March 1944 he was sent back to Singapore to embark for Japan on the ship *Kachidoki Maru* or *Rakuyo Maru*.

The ships were unmarked, and (like the *Montevideo Maru* from Rabaul), both ships were sunk by US torpedo. Charlie was recorded as having died on 12/9/1944.

Meantime Jack Byford joined the 2nd AIF and served in Palestine prior to transfer to Port Moresby PNG on 9 July 1942. As part of the 2/31st brigade he was sent up the Kokoda Track, eventually reaching Kokoda and Buna on the north coast.

He served terms on PNG north and Morotai. He survived the war, despite recurrent bouts of malaria and typhus.

Professor Doherty found himself wanting to know more of his family's wartime involvement, which illustrates the developing interest of later generations.

This is evident in the continuing release of books about military history, the numbers at Anzac ceremonies and the numbers of trekkers to Kokoda and Gallipoli. **We will remember them.**

I am grateful to the members of the Coates committee, in their own work, to keep alive the memory of the contributions of Sir Albert Coates.

Vale Dr Ed Davis

Sadly, Dr Ed Davis died on Saturday August 26, 2023. He had been a Committee member of the Albert Coates Memorial Trust from 2017 to 2022.

Ed came to us after a long medical career, including long terms in the RAAF, and then the Army. He rose to the rank of Colonel, and served as DMS (Director Medical Services) for the Army in Victoria. He was proud to have been a pall bearer for the funeral of Sir Edward ("Weary") Dunlop.

Following his military career, Ed became Medical Superintendent at Ballarat Health Services from 1983-2013, later serving in the same role at St John of God Hospital, and then as a regional administrator.

He was always reliable, with a ready smile, and strong ethical approach. With his military background he was a valued member of our committee, and our thoughts go to his wife Merrin and family.

Don Moss





SECRETARY'S REPORT

ROGER TRUDGEON Honorary Secretary

In the past year, the Coates Trust delivered a full scholarship program and its other activities returned. It was great to re-engage with scholarship recipients and to see supporters face-to-face.

The Coates Oration was held on November 16, 2022, with Laureate Professor Peter Doherty delivering a highly engaging speech entitled: 'In Times of Crisis: From Coates to Covid and Climate Change'.

Over 200 people attended the Oration, with a further audience joining our first live-streamed presentation. The Oration Dinner was attended by 110 people. Scholarship recipients were presented with their certificates at the Oration, with some giving brief speeches at the dinner outlining their experiences whilst studying.

The Trust received significant donations from organisations and individuals, which enabled distribution of a total of \$47,950 amongst sixteen tertiary scholarships, and four primary school prizes at Mount Pleasant PS, where students participated in the Museum in a Suitcase project.

We thank the Glenyis McIver Trust for a further major gift. W & D Finance continues to provide two scholarship awards at Federation University in Ballarat. The Australian Legion of Ex-Service Men and Women, through the Victorian Veteran's Council, supported one of the regional emergency nursing awards provided through the Dept. of Health Victoria. The funds previously donated by the Les and Irene Lillingston Trust and the Leckie Family continue to underpin several scholarships.

We thank Sebastopol Bowling Club who supported prizes offered in the **Museum in a Suitcase** project at Mount Pleasant Primary School.

The scholarship program relies on the active involvement of both educational and allied institutions. We are grateful to the five universities (Melbourne, Federation, Deakin, ACU and Notre Dame), the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, the Department of Health Victoria, Grampians Health and Mount Pleasant Primary School.

We acknowledge the support of Health Department officers, Pat Standen [Ballarat] and Linda Waller [Bendigo] in the service of the Rural Emergency Nursing Scholarships since 2009.

The Trust is involved with a number of allied organisations. We present history books at Prisoner of War Memorial services in Ballarat, and attend the Battle for Australia event held at the Shrine of Remembrance. In 2023 Robyn and Arthur Coates attended the naming ceremony held at the Australian Medical Association (Victoria) in honour of Sir Albert Coates and Major Rupert Downes.

We note with sadness the passing of Alison Novotny, wife of our former long-term Treasurer, Rudy Novotny. Alison was a regular attendee at our functions and a great friend to the Trust. She will be much missed. Our condolences go to Rudy.

Under the leadership of our Chair Don Moss, the members assist with the various scholarship selections, as well as tasks, such as Neil Shiells, Treasurer, Arthur Coates producing the Annual Reports from 2019 to 2022 and Robyn Coates producing the newsletter. In 2022 Gwenda McManus, a long-term committee member, was appointed as a Trustee. We thank Sam Maskell (Honorary Auditor). Thanks go to Ballarat Legacy for hosting our committee meetings. My thanks to all the committee members for their efforts.

Roger Trudgeon



TREASURER'S REPORT

NEILL SHIELLS Honorary Treasurer

The ACMT is pleased to again report a better performance than expected, in relation to income, equity and scholarships granted during 2022-2023.

Although earnings from investment income are always an important factor, the Trust is managing its investments with a low to moderate risk factor and periodic reviews. Scholarships budgeted for the Financial Year at \$44,800 actually provided \$47,950.

Equity of the Trust included \$50,000 from the Leckie family, which is allocated for the new Nursing Scholarship, and was into its second year this financial year at \$10,000 P.A. for 5 years.

All donations received during the year are gratefully acknowledged. These were numerous and significant. In particular the Trust acknowledges the ongoing support of the Legion of ex-Service Men and Women through the Victorian Veterans' Council which contributed \$2,800 this year. This particular annual donation is linked to prevailing interest rates and consequently has reduced each year.

Hopefully this will rise with the interest rate increases.

However, other donations have increased mainly due to a repeated donation from the Glenyis McIver Trust which was again \$20,000, making it again our major sponsor. Many other generous people have kept us on the right side of the balance line.

It is also relevant to mention the donations from W & D Finance of \$6,000, repeated donations from Arthur and Robyn Coates of \$5,000, Don and Sharon Moss of \$5,000 and John Davis of \$3,300.

Our reporting responsibilities with the ATO, Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission and the Victorian Veterans' Council (Legion) are all up to date. The audited accounts are attached to this report. It is appropriate to thank Sam Maskell CPA once again, for making himself available on a voluntary basis.

Neil Shiells

DONORS

Glenyis McIver Trust \$20,000

W & D Finance \$6000

D & S Moss \$5000

Arthur & Robyn Coates \$5000

J M Davis Holdings \$3300

Victorian Veterans' Council \$2800

Sebastopol Bowling Club \$600

Ex-POWs & Relatives Assoc. \$500

Peter Upton \$200

HW Menadue \$150

Paul Hemming \$130

P & P Graham \$130

Joan M Hiller OAM \$100

Robert and Noelle Hinchey \$100

Major Brian Broadribb (ret'd) \$100

MB Whitehead \$100

Maria Sozanski \$50

Jenny Forbes \$30

Peter Tansey \$30

MM Maddern \$25

Total donations \$44,345

The Coates Trust thanks all donors for their generous contributions to support the scholarship programme. The Trust distributed scholarships in 2022-2023 to the value of \$47,950.

AUDITOR'S/ TREASURERS REPORT FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2022-2023

The Statement of Profit & Loss and Balance Sheet for the ACMT is properly drawn up and gives a true and correct view of financial affairs and operations for the Year.

Income & Expenses (Summary).

	2021-2022	2022-2023	Change
Income	\$103,980.44	\$63,724.06	-38.7%
Expenses	<u>\$34,846.77</u>	<u>\$57,389.23</u>	+164.7%
Net Earnings	\$69,133.67	\$ 6,334.83	-90.8%
Donations	\$43,745.00		
Scholarships	\$47,950.00		
Total Assets	\$393,762.25	+1.6%	

Comments and Financial Highlights for the audit period:

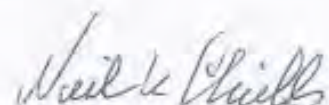
- Donations from the VVC were \$2,800 in the reporting period, Private Donations were \$40,945.00. in total. (Glenyis McIver Trust \$20,000)
- The Trust has NO financial Liabilities to report, the BAS/ GST reporting is completed quarterly.

9 Scholarships/ Awards for 2022/23

			\$47,950
▪ McIver Trust	Nursing	Federation University	\$3,000
▪ W&D Finance	Visual Arts	Federation University	\$3,000
▪ McIver Trust	Nursing/ Paramedic	Australian Catholic University	\$2,500
▪ ACMT	Medical	Deakin University	\$5,000
▪ Robyn & Arthur Coates.	Coates/ Projects	Mt Pleasant Primary School	\$200
▪ Sebastopol Bowling Club	" " "	" " "	\$600
▪ VVC/ Legion	Medical	Notre Dame University	\$2,500
▪ VVC/ Legion/ACMT	Medical	Melbourne University Anat.	\$3,000
▪ McIver Trust	Medical	Melbourne University Rural	\$2,500
▪ Lillington Trust	Emergency Nursing.		\$14,000
▪ W&D Finance	Biomedical	Federation Univ.- Ballarat	\$3,000
▪ Leckie Family	Neo-Natal	Ballarat Health Service	\$8,650



Samuel Maskell- CPA
Hon. Auditor



Neil Shiells
Hon. Treasurer



SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship Recipients and Funding Allocations - 2022-2023



Federation University Australia Foundation

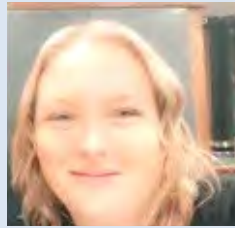
These scholarships are awarded annually in memory of Sir Albert Coates. Awarded in 2022 to second year Nursing and Visual Arts students. No Bio-medical Science applications were received.



Zibusiso Sigidi

Albert Coates award—Nursing
\$3000

Sponsor: W & D Finance



Fiona Weir

Albert Coates award—Nursing
\$3000

Sponsor: W & D Finance



Rachel Grant

Jim Pryor award—Visual Arts
\$3000

Sponsor: Glynis McIver Trust

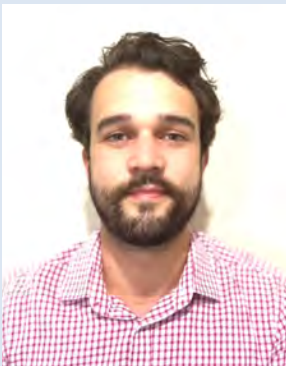


University of Melbourne - Surgical Anatomy & Rural Clinical School

University of Melbourne/ Royal Australasian College of Surgeons Graduate Diploma in Surgical Anatomy

Dr Arthur Ashton (July 2022) - \$3,000

Sponsor: Australian Legion of Ex-Service Men and Women, Victorian Veterans' Council, ACMT.



University of Melbourne - Rural Clinical School Doctor of Medicine Surgical Elective

James Grant (October 2022) - \$2,500

Sponsor: McIver Trust



During placement in Nepal



Jeff Sargent presenting James Grant with his certificate.

Photograph: Don Moss

Portrait images supplied by scholarship recipients.



SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship Recipients and Funding Allocations - 2022-2023



University of Notre Dame - MD Surgical Elective



Gracie Hay (August 2022), placement in Tanzania. - \$2,500

Sponsor: Australian Legion of Ex-Service Men and Women and Victorian Veterans' Council



Dr Ross Phillips & Gracie Hay

Grampians Health Services - Leckie Family Scholarship



Left: Desley Beechey and Neil Leckie with the award recipients at the Coates sculpture in Sturt Street, Ballarat.



L to R: Scholarship recipients: Casey Moore, Belinda Howlett and Manju Jose

Grampians Health Services

Special Care Nursing

Manja Jose - \$2,550

Belinda Howlett - \$2,550

Casey Moore - \$3,550

Sponsor: Leckie Family Bequest



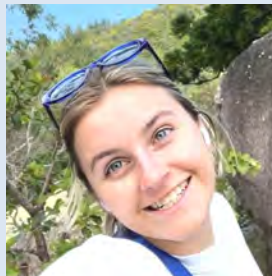
SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship Recipients and Funding Allocations - 2022-2023



Deakin University - MD Surgical Elective

**Australian Catholic University
Ballarat
Nursing / Paramedicine**



Chloe Charnstrom

Nursing / Paramedicine

Chloe Charnstrom (April 2023), \$2,500

Sponsor:
Glenyis McIver Trust



Alana Orr



Thomas Anderson

Deakin University - MD Surgical Elective

Thomas Anderson \$2,500

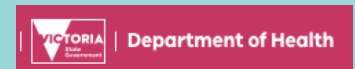
Alana Orr \$2,500
(April 2023)

Sponsors: (Two awards this year ACMT & S & D Moss)



Department of Health Victoria - Rural Emergency Nursing

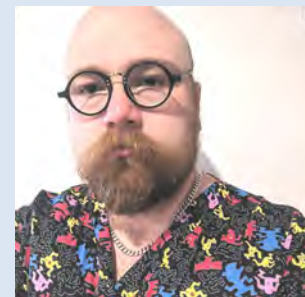
Hume Region 2022



Gurjit Sangha
North East Health,
Wangaratta - \$6,000
Graduate Certificate in Critical Care
University of Melbourne,
Wangaratta



Stephanie Vick
Goulburn Valley Health,
Shepparton - \$4,000
Master of Advanced Nursing Practice
University of Melbourne



William Wallace
North East Health,
Wangaratta - \$4,000
Master of Advanced
Nursing Practice
University of Melbourne

Rural Nursing Scholarships Sponsor: Lillingston Trust

Portrait images supplied by scholarship recipients.

Responses from scholarship recipients

November 16th 2023 at Federation University Mount Helen

campus



L to R: Coates Trust scholarship recipients Rachel Grant, Elle-Louise Smith and Deborah Parkinson spoke of their experiences during their studies and how the awards assisted them at the Albert Coates Oration Dinner.

In 2018 I was studying Nursing and assisting with design and mural work on my nights off. I have had several health issues after carpal tunnel surgery. I also lost the job I loved as a carer. This award has helped me financially and also given me strength to continue to be the best I can be after struggling with confidence due to knockbacks. Now I am studying Bachelor of Visual Arts at Federation University, Gippsland. Art is a lifestyle for me. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. Rachel Grant

I was in my final year at Deakin in the Medical School when I received the award. I am keen to close the gap between rural and metropolitan health outcomes. Growing up in the country I understand the challenges accessing health in regional areas. The Coates scholarship enabled me to mitigate travel and living expenses and materials associated with working rurally. I believe you cannot do it without inspiration and the Coates Trust helped me find that. Elle-Louise Smith

I was a nurse in urology and general nursing in 1992 and in 2010 I went back to do a Post Graduate Diploma of Midwifery. In 2020 I moved to Graduate Support for maternity graduates in the maternity unit. In this role I rotated into the Special Care Nursery. I am grateful to the Trust and the Leckie Family for taking the financial pressure off me when I enrolled into the Masters of Health Neonatal Care. Deborah Parkinson

Mount Pleasant Primary School - Museum in a Suitcase



Cash Hepburn	Equal First Prize \$250
Nick	Equal First Prize \$250
Kamal Kaur	Second Prize \$200
Blade Boon	Third Prize \$100
Eithan Kennedy	Commended
Oak Clarke	Commended
Luciana Barlow	Commended
Zac Brideson	Commended
Storm Deppler	Commended
Eva Dridan	Commended
Tyson Williams	Commended
Jack Robertson	Commended

Sponsor: Sebastopol Bowling Club

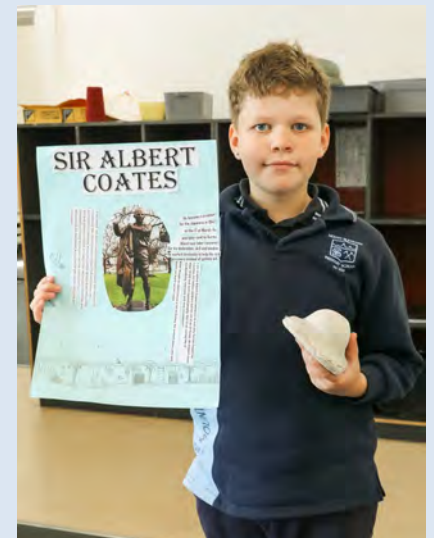


Students receiving certificates from ACMT Trustee Shirley McIver

Photographs: Arthur Coates



Mount Pleasant Primary School Museum in a Suitcase projects



Photographs: Arthur Coates

A WORD FROM A PAST AWARDEE - James Grant



James Grant with Mr Dinesh HEIC
Photograph supplied by James Grant

Over the summer I was fortunate to partake in a Cardiothoracics and Vascular surgery elective in Kathmandu, Nepal. As a final year medical student, the experience was an eye-opener, and I believe that it will have a significant impact on my future career as a medical practitioner.

My placement was based in Manmohan Cardiothoracic, Vascular, and Transplant Centre where I was able to interact and learn from a dedicated team of surgeons and junior doctors.

I took part in day-to-day ward rounds, clinics, and was able to scrub into surgeries I would not have the opportunity to as a medical student in Australia. Whilst the medicine is the same, the healthcare system in Nepal is vastly different from that of Australia.

One of the most striking differences I noticed during my elective was the severity of illnesses of patients in the hospital. Without a healthcare safety net, patients would not present to the hospital until absolute necessity, often times being at the extremes of their disease progression, stages we mostly do not see in Australia. It was at times confronting, however, the patients' resilience and faith in medical practitioners was awe-inspiring.

My supervisor, Prof Bhagwan, is well renowned for his charity, offering free cardiac surgery to children and the elderly in Nepal. His name roughly translates to 'God' in Hindi and many of the residents and patients respected him as such.

The elective also allowed me to appreciate the values of Sir Albert Coates. I was thankful for how eager the Nepalese doctors were to teach me and not only share their medical knowledge but also their life experiences. I also witnessed the resilience of patients in the face of adversity and learned to appreciate what we are fortunate to have in Australia even more.

In addition to the medical experience, the cultural exposure was equally enriching. I had a very welcoming host family who on weekends took me on hikes, to a religious festival, and cooked delicious Nepalese cuisine. The hospitality and warmth shown by the Nepalese was heart warming, and I felt humbled to be a part of their community.

Overall, this medical elective has been a life-changing experience for me, and I am incredibly grateful to the Sir Albert Coates Foundation for providing me with the opportunity. The lessons learned during this elective will undoubtedly have a positive impact on my medical career.

James Grant



Professor Peter Doherty
AC, FAA, PhD, FRS

ALBERT COATES ORATION

Prof. Peter Doherty AC

The Annual Coates Oration, in collaboration with Federation University Australia, was held on the 16th November 2022, in the Geoffrey Blainey Auditorium.

The oration was delivered by Laureate Professor Peter Doherty. Professor Doherty is an immunologist and Nobel laureate.

His research focusses on the immune system and his Nobel Prize work described how the body's immune cells protect against viruses.

Professor Peter Doherty presented the 2022 Coates Oration on Wednesday, November 6th at Federation University Australia, Ballarat. The address was entitled:

'In times of crisis: From Coates to COVID and Climate Change'.

Prof. Doherty began with a brief overview of Sir Albert Coates noting that he faced three acute crises during his life, WW1, the 1918/19 influenza pandemic and WW2. Doherty has lived through WW2, the continuing HIV/AIDS pandemic and Covid 19.

In addition to these, he noted that the world was now facing the undoubted impact of climate change. The oration focussed on the Covid 19 pandemic, reviewing the causes and the responses to Covid from both scientific research and governmental policy perspectives. A glimpse was given into future developments in medical research that might be used to meet pandemics to come.

The skills needed to understand the immediate crisis of the pandemic hold parallels with the need to assess and understand the impact of climate change. Satellite systems 'track greenhouse gas emissions and their consequences'.

Whilst climate modelling is already requiring enormous quantities of collected data, the reliability of accurately predicting future climate change will rely on exponential increases in computing speed and consequential increased research costs.

The lively and thoroughly engaging address was given without reference to his speech notes, but a review of his published text later showed that he was meticulous in covering everything he planned to include.

The full paper can be found on the Albert Coates Memorial Trust website. (www.albertcoates.com.au)

Roger Trudgeon



Professor Peter Doherty
Photograph: Arthur Coates

PRESENTATIONS AT THE ALBERT COATES ORATION



Duncan Bentley
Vice Chancellor
Federation University Australia



Roger Trudgeon
Albert Coates Memorial Trust



Carolyn Chong
Deputy Vice Chancellor
Federation University Australia



Prof. Doherty, Rachel Grant
Federation University, Visual Arts



Deborah Parkinson with Neil Leckie
Perinatal Special Care Nursing
Ballarat Health Services



Prof. Doherty, Zibusiso Sigidi, Don Moss
Federation University, Nursing



Prof. Doherty, Matthew Scott
Deakin University
2022 Surgical Elective



Roger Trudgeon (Sec. ACMT), Zibusiso Sigidi, Karen Zipkas (2021),
Carolyn Ching (Deputy Vice- Chancellor Federation University), Rachel Grant,
Neil Leckie (Leckie Family scholarship), Deborah Parkinson, Matthew Scott,
Elle-Louise Smith, Duncan Bentley (Vice – Chancellor Federation University),
Prof Peter Doherty, Don Moss.



Left: Karen Zipkas with Don Moss
Federation University, 2021 Visual Arts

LUNCH WITH SPEAKER

Dr Christine Ball AM



Dr Christine Ball AM



Mr Don Moss, Dr Christine Ball, Dr Ross Phillips



Joseph Thomas Clover (28 February 1825-1882); was an **English doctor and pioneer of anaesthesia**. He invented a variety of pieces of apparatus to deliver anaesthetics including ether and chloroform safely and controllably. By 1871 he had administered anaesthetics 13,000 times without a fatality.

Joseph Clover, Surgeon, Anaesthetist, Inventor

Dr Christine Ball AM

Honorary Curator at Geoffrey Kaye Museum; Anaesthetist, Alfred Hospital; Adjunct Associate Professor, Monash University.

The 2023 Lunch with Speaker was presented by Dr Christine Ball AM on June 27th 2023. The lunch was attended by over 80 people at the Ballarat Yacht Club.

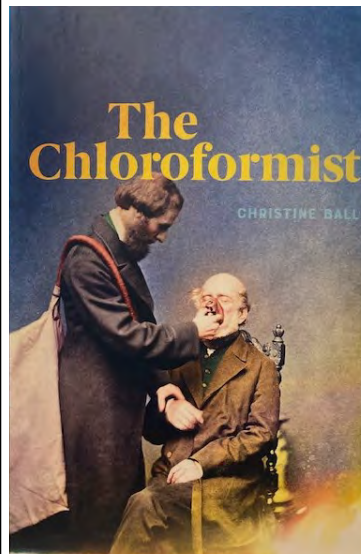
Dr Ball is an anaesthetist at the Alfred Hospital in Melbourne, co-convenor of the Master of Peri-Operative Medicine at Monash University and Honorary Curator of the Geoffrey Kaye Museum of Anaesthetic History since 1989. Entitled '**Chloroform, cobras and the evolution of Modern Anaesthesia**', the talk focussed on the life and work of Joseph Clover, an English pioneer of early developments in the use of anaesthetics in surgery.

Dr Ball traced the methods used from the 1840s to anaesthetize surgical patients, beginning with ether, moving to chloroform and later

including nitrous oxide (laughing gas). Clover developed techniques and equipment to make chloroform safer to use and importantly established the specialization of anaesthesia and its relationship with surgeons.

The paper included substantial images of medical identities, equipment and archives used to research historical developments. The full history can be found in Dr Ball's absorbing 2021 book, **The Chloroformist**, published by the University of Melbourne.

Roger Trudgeon



Gwenda McManus, Norma Jenkins



Barry Lonsdale, Paul Jenkins

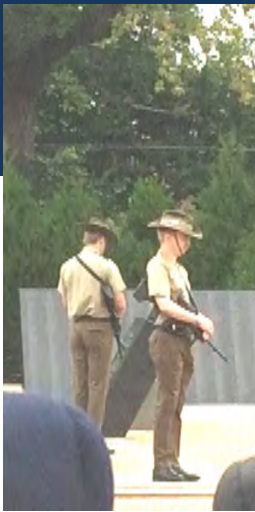


Kay Leckie, Neil Leckie

Photographs: Elizabeth Trudgeon

P.O.W. MEMORIAL COMMEMORATIONS

12th February and 25th April 2023



Prisoner-of-War Memorial Commemorations 2023

The POW Memorial Committee conducts several commemorative services during the year, including marking the launch of the Memorial in 2002 and the major wartime anniversaries such as ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day, amongst others. At each service, wreaths are laid, or military history related books can be presented. The POW Memorial Committee distributes the donated books to schools in the Ballarat region and keeps a listing of where books go to avoid duplication of donations. In recent years, the Coates Trust has been presenting packages of books about Albert Coates, prisoner-of-war history, and other military-related references. The Coates Trust congratulates the POW Memorial Committee on this initiative and looks forward to continuing to support the programme.



The speakers at the
19th POW Commemoration Service were:
L to R: Mayor Cr Des Hudson, Megan Spencer
and Commander Greg Yorke AM CSC RAN.

AUSTRALIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

VICTORIAN BRANCH

Royal Parade Parkville

FORECOURT NAMING CEREMONY

24th April, 2023



Scan QR code for AMA biography of Albert Coates



Dr Jean Douglas laid an ANZAC Day wreath.



L to R: Robyn Coates, Rev John Minchin, Janette Minchin, Jaccy Coates, Sunday Coates, Andrew Coates, Arthur Coates - Coates family members who attended the Ceremony.



Sir Albert Ernest Coates
President BMA
Victoria Branch 1941 & 1947
Scan for life story:

THE COATES FORECOURT

R: Andrew Coates, grandson of Sir Albert Coates, spoke on behalf of his father, Dr A. A. (Tony) Coates and the Coates family.

The 1923 sculpture depicts: **A Medic attending a Wounded Infantryman** by Charles Webb Gilbert.

L: Sir Albert Coates plaque



On 24 April 2023, at the AMA Victoria building in Royal Parade, Parkville, a gathering of around 60 AMA members and guests attended the naming ceremony in honour of two past Presidents of the Association, Sir Albert Coates and Major Rupert Downes.

A forecourt was named in honour of Albert Coates and a garden was named after Major Downes. Mrs. Susan Grant, granddaughter of Rupert Downes, spoke on his life and contribution. Plaques with portraits and QR code links to information on the lives of both were unveiled.

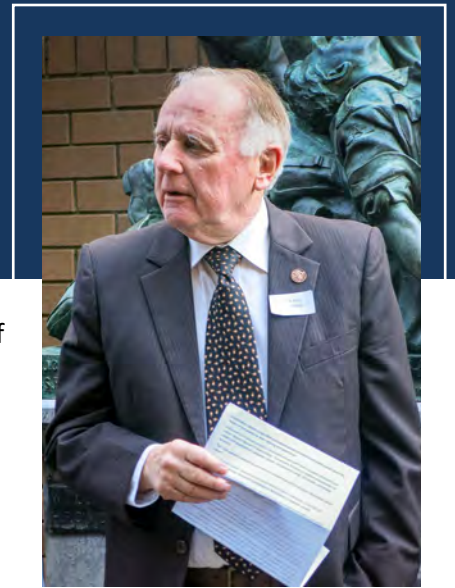
Thanks to Arthur Coates and Dr Jean Douglas for providing information and photographs of the AMA Victoria event.

Forty-three doctors who died in military service in WW1 are listed. In 1947 doctors who died in WW2 were added to the sculpture base.

AMA CO-NAMING of the FORECOURT

24th April 2023

Arthur Coates



Arthur Coates speaking at the event.

Photograph: Robyn Coates

Thank you to the AMA for giving me this opportunity to inform or remind those of us present of the work of the Albert Coates Memorial Trust. The Trust is delighted to be associated with the AMA's recognition of my uncle Albert and Major-General Rupert Major Downes in the co-naming of this forecourt, and to be connected to the QR code.

During the 1990s returned service personnel in Ballarat were becoming anxious that the local boy, Albert Coates and his achievements were being forgotten or eclipsed by his great friend and colleague, Edward Dunlop.

Finally, a public meeting was called and 38 people attended including many Ballarat luminaries. The upshot was that the trust was formed in 1998 and attracted great support from some of Albert's children. The first big task was to raise \$100,000.00 to erect a statue in Sturt Street. The money was raised, and the statue unveiled in the year 2000. This was before my involvement, but I think it was an enormous achievement.

Just imagine, sculptor Louis Laumen had to be engaged, moulds made, bronze poured and everything erected. It is not just a statue but a square depicting Albert's many areas of service. From its inception the Trust has awarded book prizes at some graduation ceremonies and in 2003, the Trust extended its activities into what were called 'living memorials', by commencing a program of tertiary level scholarships, mostly in the fields of medicine and nursing and targeted towards regionally based medical and nursing students.

About 15 years ago, the Australian Legion of Ex-Service Men and Women deposited \$1,000,000.00 with the Victorian Veterans Council for the interest to be used by the Trust, enabling an expansion of the scholarship program. The Trust has allocated approx. \$48,000 this year to award over a dozen scholarships ranging in value from \$2,500 to \$10,000. A Trust member participates in each selection process and some knowledge of Albert is expected. With interest rates being so low recently the income from the Victorian Veteran Council plummeted to only \$2,800.00 this year but the scholarship program was able to survive due to the significant donations from charitable trusts and individual donors. A big attraction for Charitable trusts is that The Coates Trust is entirely volunteer run, and of course registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission.

Each year the Trust conducts a Lunch with Speaker featuring relevant military or medical topics. This year Christine Ball will speak on the development of anaesthesia in Victoria. In association with Federation University, we also conduct an annual Coates Oration in October. Our orator last year was Prof. Peter Doherty and just before the pandemic the Governor of Victoria, the Hon. Linda Dessau AC, spoke on science education. A celebratory dinner is held after the Oration where scholarship recipients speak about the impact of the awards on their training and experience.

A Museum in a Suitcase project is conducted annually with Year 6 students at Albert's old school, Mount Pleasant Primary School. The projects focus on a creative interpretation of Albert's life ranging from computer quizzes and games to songs, 3D models and display booklets.

The Trust operates a website to promote the scholarships and to circulate information about Albert. The Trust also donates Coates' biographies and other military history references, to the Ballarat based Prisoner of War Memorial Committee for distribution to regional schools. Next time you hear of the Albert Coates Memorial Trust you should know a little more and if you are moved to contribute, visit the website.

Arthur Coates

SPONSORS and SCHOLARSHIP PARTNERS

The Albert Coates Memorial Trust is grateful for the support of the following organisations which have sponsored scholarships, and the many individuals who have given financial and practical support.

The Leckie family donation of \$50,000 in 2021 has enabled the Trust to support the training scheme for Neonatal Nursing scholarship at Grampians Health Services for five years.

The Lillingston Trust, set up by Irene and Les Lillingston, provided \$50,000 which is used to support trainee doctors in completing their qualifications.



The Glenyis McIver Charitable Trust, established in 2013, has provided generous support, over a number of years, to the Coates Trust towards the scholarship programme.



Since 2009, **the Australian Legion of Ex-Service Men and Women** has been a generous contributor to the Trust's work through a major corpus of funds administered by the **Victorian Veterans' Council**.



For many years **W & D Finance** has generously sponsored Biomedical Science and Nursing scholarships at Federation University Australia.



Since 2001, the Trust has worked closely with the **University of Melbourne** and the **Royal Australasian College of Surgeons** in formally presenting the Sir Albert Coates Scholarship in the Postgraduate Diploma in Surgical Anatomy.



Since 2000, **Federation University Australia (Ballarat)** has been a key supporter in helping coordinate the promotion, selection and presentation of the University's Albert Coates scholarships. The University presents the Coates Oration each year providing generous practical and financial support.



The Trust appreciates the support of the **Sebastopol Bowling Club** for sponsoring the Mount Pleasant Primary School 'Museum in a Suitcase' project.



The Trust is grateful to **Ballarat Legacy** for hosting the monthly meetings of the Coates Trust Committee.



The Trust acknowledges the support of **FRP Printing Pty Ltd**, Traminer Court, Wendouree Vic. 3355

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